

35.C13892

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of:

KEN SAKAKIBARA, ET AL.

Application No.: 09/413,642

Filed: October 6, 1999

For: DISTRIBUTED OFFICE SYSTEM
AND MANAGEMENT METHOD
THEREOF

Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 2732

August 10, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AUG 14 2001

Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Applicants certify under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the subject information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Specifically, these documents were first cited in a European

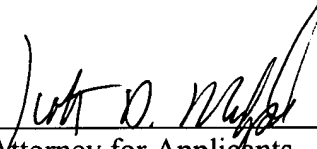
Search Report dated July 16, 2001, in a corresponding European patent application. A copy of the Search Report that issued on that related application is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

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